

# The Coins and Medals Honoring George Washington

Atlantic County Numismatic Society	Feb 6, 2013
Red Rose Coin Club	Feb 21, 2013
Cedar Grove Historical Society	Feb 27, 2013
New Jersey Numismatic Society	Jun 17, 2013
West Jersey Coin Club	Sep 19, 2013

Introduce Myself

Question the audience:

ANA? ANS? EAC? C4? GSNA?

George Washington

Surveyor, Farmer, Plantation Owner, Military Genius, Our First President  
Honored as a hero on both sides of the Atlantic.

When he had announced he would be **voluntarily relinquishing power by retiring as President, King George III stated that Washington was “placed in a light the most distinguished of any man living,” and was “the greatest character of the age.”** No wonder, then, that in the wake of his death that the House of Representatives passed a resolution authored by Henry Lee that summarized America’s thoughts on Washington: **“first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”**

## Literature for Washingtonia:

Red Book – READ THE First 90 pages – it can be a life-changing experience  
Dave Bowers Colonial Encyclopedia  
Medallic Portraits of Washington by Baker

## Let’s look at the coins and medals you can find in the Red Book...

### 1783 Georgius Triumpho

The only 1783 dated Washington coin struck during Washington’s life.  
Found as an undertype on a Maris 73-aa NJ Copper.

### 1783 Washington Military Bust

### 1783 Washington Draped Bust

### 1783 Double Head

### 1783 Unity Cents

Similar reverse design to US Large Cents of 1800s.

### 1791 Washington Small Eagle

This and the next are examples of a proposed coinage by W. & Alex Walker of Birmingham, England. The dies were engraved by 16 year old John Hancock! Washington rejected having his image placed on coinage as that would appear to have the “stamp of royalty”.

**1791 Washington Large Eagle**

**(1792) Washington Born Virginia**

Latest theories are that this medal was designed, dies engraved by, and struck by Jacob Perkins of Newburyport, MA (near Boston).

**1793 Washington Ship Halfpenny**

**1795 Washington Liberty & Security**

A Conder Token – Wide circulation in England

**1795 Washington Grate Token**

Payable at Clark & Harris Bishopsgate –

**(1795) North Wales Halfpenny**

**Undated Washington Success Token**

Theories surround this issue as to the time and reason for their existence.

One is that it was struck to commemorate Washington's second inauguration in March, 1793. Others think it is a mid 1800s production or game counter. The earliest reference is an 1830 pencil rubbing.

## **Washingtonia not found in the Red Book:**

### **Washington Advertising Tokens**

Chris McCawley

Stack's

Guttag

### **Satirical Medal –**

First In War and Peace – Last in securing a Monument

1805 Eccleston Medal – Daniel Eccleston was a British entrepreneur . He had these medals struck to honor Washington, but also to bring attention to the plight of the Native Americans. The “The Land Was Ours” in the center of the reverse uses the same portrait of a Native American that was used on the Quaker Peace Medals (Penn Medals). Eccleston had visited Washington in VA before the Rev War, and had spent a week traveling in canoes with 10 Native Americans.

Obv.

“GENERAL WASHINGTON / INSCRIBED TO HIS MEMORY BY D;  
ECCLESTON. LANCASTER MDCCCV”

Rev.

“HE LAID THE FOUNDATION OF AMERICAN LIBERTY IN THE  
XVIII CENTURY. / INNUMERABLE MILLIONS YET UNBORN WILL  
VENERATE THE MEMORY / OF THE MAN WHO OBTAINED THEIR  
COUNTRY'S FREEDOM”

**Betts Medals**

Washington Before Boston

**Later Commemorative Medals**

1881 Centennial – Surrender at Yorktown

**Funeral Medals****Repub. Ameri.**

Not classified as a Funeral medal, but it does list the death date.

**Funeral Urn**

Struck and sold by Jacob Perkins. Came in gold, silver and a white metal. Advertisements offering these medals for sale are in early January 1800 Boston and Rhode Island newspapers. These medals were worn in the February 22, 1800 Funeral Procession in Boston. The urn exists holding a lock of Washington's Hair. It's gold and was made by Paul Revere. It resides in the Boston Masonic Lodge.

**Skull & Crossbones**

These medals appear to have been worn by the Masons in the February 11, 1800 Funeral Procession in Boston.